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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for delivering and storing coupon data using a horizontal overscan portion of a video signal, the system comprising:

a decoder operative to extract coupon data from the horizontal

overscan portion of a video signal during a transmission session; and

an electronic coupon operative to display a coupon representation defined by the coupon data, the electronic coupon comprising:

a non-volatile memory operative to receive the coupon data during the transmission session and to store the coupon data for display by the electronic coupon after the transmission session ends, and

a controller operative to retrieve the coupon data from the non-volatile memory and to cause the electronic coupon to display the coupon representation.

- 2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the decoder is an integrated part of the electronic coupon.
- The system of Claim 1, wherein the electronic coupon further comprises a Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) display for displaying the coupon representation.
- 4. The system of Claim 3, wherein the coupon representation comprises a Universal Product Code bar code.

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- 5. The system of Claim 4, wherein the doupon representation can be read by a bar code scanner.
- 5 6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the transmission session comprises a broadcast of a television program.
 - 7. The system of Claim 6, wherein the television program comprises a television commercial.
 - 8. The system of Claim 1, wherein the transmission session comprises a play-back of a video taped program.
- 9. The system of Claim 1, wherein the electronic coupon comprises a mode key, the mode key operative to select either a storage mode or a redeem mode.
 - 10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the mode key is further operative to select a set-up mode.
 - 11. The system of Claim 1, wherein the non-volatile memory comprises magnetic media.
- 12. The system of Claim 1, wherein the non-volatile memory comprises an electrical circuit.

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13. A method for delivering and storing coupon data for an electronic coupon using the horizontal overscan portion of a video signal, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the video signal during a transmission session;

extracting coupon data from the horizontal overscan portion of the video signal; and

following the transmission session, displaying a coupon representation defined by the coupon data.

- 14. The method of Claim 13, wherein the transmission session comprises a broadcast of a television program.
- 15. The method of Claim 13, wherein the transmission session comprises a play-back of a video taped program.
- 16. The method of Claim 13, further comprising the step of storing the coupon data in a non-volatile memory.
- 17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of retrieving coupon data from the memory prior to performing the behavior defined thereby.
- 18. The method of Claim 17, further comprising the step of displaying a set-up menu from which a user can select coupon-types for storage.

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- 19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the step of storing the coupon data is performed in response to a determination that the coupon data is of the coupon-type selected by a user for storage.
- 20. The method of Claim 13, wherein the coupon representation comprises a Universal Product Code bar code.
- 21. The method of Claim 20, wherein the coupon representation can be read by a bar code scanner.
 - 22. The method of Claim 13, wherein the non-volatile memory comprises magnetic media.
 - 23. The method of Claim 13, wherein the non-volatile memory comprises an electrical circuit.

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